Ghaghra, Gandak, Bagmati, Kamla Balan and Kosi. The lengths of these rivers in Nepal/Tibet and in Bihar are as below:

(Length in Kilometres)

Sl. No.	Name of the river	India (In Bihar)	Nepal/ Tibet
1,	Ghaghra	70	585
2.	Gandak	260	380
3.	Bagmati	398	195
4.	Kamla Balan	150	178
5.	Kosi	260	208

(b) Ghaghra, Gandak and Kosi rivers cause heavy floods in Bihar every year.

(c) and (d) Negotiations by the Union Government with the Government of Nepal for undertaking measures to alleviate the sufferings of the inhabitants in Bihar from the ravages of floods resulted in setting up so far 27 hydrometeorological stations in Nepal. Flood warning messages from these stations have helped to protect life and property in North Bihar during monsoon.

A few water resources development projects, with predominant flood benefit components, like Sapta Kosi High Dam, Kamla and Bagmati projects have been under consideration of both the governments for a number of years. Sapta Kosi High Dam Project has been under active discussion in Joint Committee of Experts constituted for the purpose in 1992. Kamla and Bagmati Projects are also under discussion in the Joint Committee of Experts reconstituted as Joint Team of Experts in 1996. All the three projects are under preliminary stages of discussion.

Shrinking of Gangotri

776. SHRI PRAFULL GORADIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the source of the Ganga i.e. Gangotri is shrinking;

(b) if so, what measures have been taken to save the glacier and the Ganga;

(c) whether peoples' cooperation have been sought in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Studies carried out by the Geological Survey of India on Gangotri Glacier, over the last 60 years or so have revealed that the glacier is receding gradually. Based on a study of the climate for the last 1000 years, they have concluded that in general glaciers keep on fluctuating over a period of hundreds of years and the process of recession may be reversed in due course of time with favourable climatic conditions.

(b) to (d) Since global warming is a worldwide phenomenon, it is difficult to arrest recession of a particular glacier through artificial means. However, reduction in deforestation and preservation of ecology of high altitue regions can go a long way in reducing the effects of global warming on Himalayan glaciers and thereby retarding the rate of recession.

Progress of Narmada Dam Project

777. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Narmada Bachao Andolan has lately been demanding a White Paper on the resettlement of Narmada evicts;

(b) if so, the progress so far made in rehabilitation of these evicts, indicating also the number of those still unrehabilitated; and

(c) the progress so far made in implementation of the Narmada Dam project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Out of 7038 Project Affected Families (PAF's) upto the dam height of 90 m, 5500 PAFs have been resettled. The remaining 220